

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA.

L. I. M. I. T. E. D.

DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.

CHEMISTS AND AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

DAKIN'S SELTZER WATER,

CONTAINS THE TRUE SELTZER SALTS.

Makes a more palatable drink with spirits than Soda Water.

NO LOWERING TENDENCY.

IN LARGEST SIZE BOTTLES, CENTS 50 PER DOZEN.

(Telephone No. 66.)

No. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL

Hongkong, 13th April, 1891.

of speculation is nevertheless understood to have been indulged in by more or less influential operators, especially in Bank shares, and something very like an inspired "Corner"—inspiration in matters concerning the private business of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has, alas, for a very long time past been of only too frequent occurrence—is rumoured to have been hopelessly "bust" owing to that unfortunate and totally unforeseen and unprovided-for Parsee failure in Bombay. Who led the attack against the "bulls"? Why, of course, the local Leviathan of the Rialto. When the clever (in their own estimation) would-be manipulators of the Hongkong Share Market get into difficulties through their own avaricious and asinine blundering, as a common rule they shed bitter tears, loudly proclaim that they have been victimised by that irrepressible and all-conquering speculator, and offer payment of losses in doubtful written promises; but when they happen, by some wonderful stroke of luck and per favor of the "Inspiration" above referred to, aided by special privileges as to overdrawing their generally decrepit and doubtful accounts without tangible security of any sort, to get that astute gentleman into a corner, they cheerfully annex his dollars and rejoice exceedingly. And then they call him bad names, ay, even those who make their livelihood out of his patronage, and lavishly enjoy his princely hospitality. It is not so very long ago that a certain coterie of adventurous wire-pullers tried to leave our old friend high and dry on a big gamble in Banks; they had everything on their side calculated to secure success—the Grand Panjandrum, the "inspiration" of some of the other honest, conscientious and stable Directors, in addition to all the brokers who wanted a job, some of whom, by the way, are good fellows, whilst others are only fit for mops to clean the Queen's Road gutters with. The "bull" movement on this particular occasion didn't quite come off; the versatile manipulator from India's coral strand hasn't been sculling round Hongkong share politics for over a quarter of a century without knowing something, and when assumed to be completely at the mercy of the "bulls" he had four aces up his sleeve, and when the crisis came he quietly checkmated his adversaries and "cornered" them to some purpose. He was supposed to have "short-sold," and it was on this assumption that the inspired combination went actively to work to create a fictitious quotation for settlement day. But notwithstanding the tolls that were being woven closely around him, the Crosses of the Hongkong Stock Market was quite cheerful and kept on selling Bank shares with such vigour and displayed such an amount of confidence in the policy he was pursuing that a scare set in, and the omniscient "Corner" took fright when they found the stock steadily depreciating in spite of all their exertions in a contrary direction. And what happened then? Was it not a matter of common knowledge and general gossip that the would-be biters, who had got so severely bitten at their own game, invoked the kind offices of a certain omnipotent and ubiquitous Bank official to save them from being completely smashed up, and that the great man did as a matter of fact adopt coercive measures and "put the screw on," and insisted that the wholesale disposal of Bank stock should cease! The inspired "bulls," worsted in a barefaced attempt at cornering, the legality of which was certainly open to doubt, were only saved from disastrous consequences by a medium which ought to have been far beyond having anything to do with such a shady business. History repeats itself. It has only been too clearly evident of late that Bank stock was being industriously "boomed" under official auspices, and that the promoters of the movement were powerfully and influentially supported. The speculation met with some degree of success, as the rate was recklessly pushed up in the fashion so common in the local market, and but for that unfortunate Parsee failure and another reported loss of nearly a lakh owing to a flagrant case of overconfidence in what is said to have been a one-sided game of exchange speculation, the boom would probably have been maintained until after the April settlements, and a substantial haul realised; but bad news travel apace and the Bombay heavy loss, added to other losses and other causes nearer home, brought the shares down with a run to the tune of eight per cent. in one afternoon—hence the weeping and wailing and long faces, and unsatisfactory and missing accounts on squaring-up day.

The attitude assumed by the dictators of the Hongkong Bank towards the new National Bank of China has led to much discussion in local share circles. "War to the knife" is the Christian-like motto of these excellent persons, and they are carrying on a one-sided and most purposeless warfare with distinguished success. By

dint of hard work the shares of the National Bank of China, which were far more than fully applied for, have been forced down to 27½ per cent. discount, and there are numerous Richmonds in the field struggling might and main to strangle the promising infant at its birth; but considering the most satisfactory and universal support the new concern has received from all classes in the commercial world both in London and throughout the Far East, and the promising field of operations open to its enterprise, it will take more than the feeble and factious opposition of a few Hongkong share-jobbers to crush it in the bud. But why this spiteful opposition from the Court of Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and their obsequious satellites and time-servers, to a legitimate enterprise whose opposition they pretend can do their vested interests no harm, and with whose leading supporters they are apparently on the most harmonious terms? It is positively certain that had this National Bank of China not been "started," the great local Bank would have had to face the determined rivalry of a powerful German Bank in Hongkong in the very near future, and even now it is by no means certain that opposition in that direction will not be realised before many months have passed. In addition to all this it is puzzling to reconcile with common sense the inconsistency of the renowned Court of Directors in their war of extermination against the projected National Bank of China, while they allow several distinguished members of the Court, apparently without one word of remonstrance, to actively direct and support various other banking positions already existing in the colony. But then consistency, like many other esteemed qualities which are sadly lacking, is not one of the strong points of the omnium gatherum majority of nondescripts who have done so much lately to bring the Directorate of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank into well-deserved contempt. That these would-be autocrats, who claim to absolutely control the business affairs of Hongkong, and more especially in regard to share transactions, will be brought to their proper bearings is a matter of certainty, and that at no very far distant date. The selfish, tyrannical and utterly unjustifiable absolutism which a majority of these paid servants of the shareholders have initiated and carried into effect, in dealing with their employers, the clients and supporters of the Bank, has excited a feeling of wide-spread indignation and general disgust; complaints are heard from every side of uncivil and uncourteous treatment, and the names of Directors who hold their heads high amongst their fellows and assume a snuffing air of virtue even if they have it not, are freely bandied about in connection with transactions which are the reverse of creditable. Many of the financial troubles which have so demoralised the local Share Market are attributed by those whose judgment is entitled to respect, and general gossip that the would-be biters, who had got so severely bitten at their own game, invoked the kind offices of a certain omnipotent and ubiquitous Bank official to save them from being completely smashed up, and that the great man did as a matter of fact adopt coercive measures and "put the screw on," and insisted that the wholesale disposal of Bank stock should cease! The inspired "bulls," worsted in a barefaced attempt at cornering, the legality of which was certainly open to doubt, were only saved from disastrous consequences by a medium which ought to have been far beyond having anything to do with such a shady business. History repeats itself. It has only been too clearly evident of late that Bank stock was being industriously "boomed" under official auspices, and that the promoters of the movement were powerfully and influentially supported. The speculation met with some degree of success, as the rate was recklessly pushed up in the fashion so common in the local market, and but for that unfortunate Parsee failure and another reported loss of nearly a lakh owing to a flagrant case of overconfidence in what is said to have been a one-sided game of exchange speculation, the boom would probably have been maintained until after the April settlements, and a substantial haul realised; but bad news travel apace and the Bombay heavy loss, added to other losses and other causes nearer home, brought the shares down with a run to the tune of eight per cent. in one afternoon—hence the weeping and wailing and long faces, and unsatisfactory and missing accounts on squaring-up day.

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demands immediate redress. It is understood at Cape Town that Lord Salisbury has only remonstrated with the Portuguese Government regarding the *Agnes* affair. A mass meeting is to be held at Cape Town to protest against the inaction of the Imperial Government, and the newspapers talk of lowering the British flag in South Africa.

THE BOERS ON THE WAR-PATH.

April 23d.

There is intense excitement at the Cape owing to five thousand Boers arranging for a trek in Mashonaland. The High Commissioner of Cap Colony, Sir H. B. Loch, telegraphed to the President of the Transvaal that the British nation would regard the trek as an act of hostility, and the President replied that the trek would be stopped.

LOD SALSIBURY'S ATTITUDE.

The Marquis of Salisbury has demanded an explanation from Portugal regarding South African affairs, and awaits a reply before taking action. The political situation of Portugal is very critical.

PORUGAL BACKS DOWN.

April 24th.

Portugal has assured the Marquis of Salisbury of the free navigation of the river Pungwe, and has ordered the release of the crews of the captured steamers.

FURTHER OUTRAGES.

April 28th.

The British Consul at Delagoa cables that Messrs. Colquhoun, Pawley, and the officers of the Chartered British African Company were brutally assaulted by Portuguese. British lives unsafe.

PREPARING FOR ACTION.

April 29th.

H.M.S. *Raleigh* has left Cape Town for the East coast of Africa, conveying field guns and stores.

[The above telegrams, one or two of which have already appeared in our columns, show the political situation in regard to South African affairs, as between Great Britain and Portugal. There can be no doubt that the alleged brutal treatment of Mr. Colquhoun and his colleagues has greatly intensified the position, and rendered an ultimatum from Lord Salisbury to the Portuguese Government almost a certainty.—Ed., *Hongkong Telegraph*.]

THE INDIAN TROUBLE.

April 30th.

Manipur was occupied unopposed. The enemy fled.

THE TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.

The Two Thousand Guineas, a subscription of 1000 guineas each, half forfeit, for three year old colts, fillies 8st. 9lb.; the owner of the second horse to receive 200 sovereigns out of the stakes, and the third to save his stake. Rowley mile (one mile and 17 yards).—86 guineas.

Lord Ailington's b.c. *Common*, by Isonomy.

Mr. J. H. Houldsworth's b.c. *Orvieto*, by Bend Or—Napoli.

Lord Durham's b.c. *Peter Flower*, by Petrarch.

—Florida.

—Tuttle.

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A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the General Manager for the year ended the 31st December, 1890, for presentation to the shareholders at the ordinary general meeting of the Company, to be held at the Hongkong Dispensary, on Thursday, the 14th May, 1891.

To the shareholders of A. S. Watson & Co., Limited,

Gentlemen.—I beg to lay before you a statement of the Company's business, with a balance sheet for the year ending the 31st December, 1890.

The net profits of the Company for the twelve months under review, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, and including \$2,413.88, brought forward from last year, amount to \$84,347.74. We paid an interim dividend of 7 per cent. in November last, absorbing \$35,000.00, and now propose to pay a further dividend of 7 per cent. (making 14 per cent. for the year), which will absorb \$15,000.00, and to carry \$30,000.00 in Reserve Fund to meet contingencies or for equalising dividends (in accordance with Clause 16 of Article 123), leaving a balance of \$1,342.74 to be carried forward.

I estimate that the fire we experienced on the 19th May last indirectly reduced the amount of our net profits for the year by \$20,000.00, as the stocks that remained were quite inadequate to meet the demand until fresh supplies came forward.

The Company's accounts in London have been audited by Messrs. Edward Moore & Son, chartered accountants, and those at the Head Office by Mr. V. A. Caesar Hawkins.

JNO. D. HUMPHREYS,
General Manager,
Hongkong, 1st May, 1891.

OUR PUBLIC WORKS.

The following report on the operations of the public works for the year 1890 was presented to the Legislative Council on the 30th ulto.:

SURVEYOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Hongkong, 28th February, 1891.

PRAYA RECLAMATION.

2. There are four separate reclamations now in progress, viz.:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| (a) Reclamation included in Ordinance 16 of 1889 | 9,191 lineal feet |
| (b) Reclamation in front of Wharf and Godown Co's Marine Lots Nos. 98 to 105, West Point | 593 " |
| (c) Reclamation in front of Sailors' Home | 480 " |

Making a continuous length of 10,265 lineal feet.

(d) Reclamation in front of
Mr. Chater's Marine Lots
Nos. 240 to 246, Kennedy
Town
 1,410 " |

Total..... 15,673 lineal feet.

equal to 2 1/5th miles.

3. Contracts were let in the spring for the formation of the rubble mound which forms the base of the Harbour wall for Section No. 2, and a portion of Section No. 7, and subsequently for Section No. 3. The work contracted for has an aggregate length of 1,003 feet. The work was actually begun in February last, a memorial stone to commemorate the inauguration of the new Praya having been laid by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught on 2nd April last. On 31st December the rubble mounds of Sections Nos. 2 and 7 were well advanced, about 2,260 cubic yards of stone having been deposited.

4. It having been decided to substitute blocks of Portland cement concrete for the granite footings of the Praya wall, it became necessary to order the plant required for lifting, transporting and setting these blocks. Accordingly an 8-ton travelling crane, with the necessary rails and other appliances, and a supply of cement, were requisitioned from England through the Crown Agents, and a steam tug of twenty-seven horse power, two block barges, each capable of carrying sixty-five tons, and a floating portion 8-ton crane have been contracted for locally with the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company. The steam tug and block barges are nearly completed, and it is anticipated that both the floating and land crane will be complete and ready for work in May next. As the blocks will be required for the extension of the Praya, arrangements will shortly be made to commence the fabrication of the concrete blocks; and thus provide a sufficient stock to allow the work to be pushed on rapidly.

5. The progress made with the Reclamation in front of the Wharf and Godown Company's property has not been so great as might reasonably have been expected owing to the delay in putting in the granite footings. Now, however, these are laid, and the work is above low-water level there is nothing to prevent this reclamation being carried on regularly and it should be completed in about nine months.

6. The same remark applies to the Reclamation in front of the Sailors' Home. Much time was lost in putting in the foundation courses but now that these are completed this reclamation which lies to the westward of that belonging to the Wharf and Godown Company should be completed at about the same time.

7. The reclamation in front of Mr. Chater's Marine Lots Nos. 240 to 246, Kennedy Town, has progressed satisfactorily, and but little remains to be done to this extensive reclamation, which will be completed early in the spring. The total area of land reclaimed, including that occupied by public wharves and roads, is about 8.5 acres.

II.—PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

CENTRAL MARKET.

8. A contract for the foundations and retaining walls was entered into with Mr. Tsang Keng on 23rd May last, and the work was forthwith commenced. Fairly good progress has been made. It has been found necessary to pile the whole of the trenches on the north, or Praya side. Up to 31st December 385 hardwood piles had been driven and there remained to drive about 200. A requisition for the columns, floor girders and beams was forwarded to the Crown Agents in June last. The detailed drawings of the superstructure are nearly completed, and tenders will shortly be called for; so that the Contractor may be in a position to commence operations early in the spring immediately after the completion of the foundations.

HAP ROCK LIGHTHOUSE.

9. Although all preparations had been previously made, it was only found practicable to effect a permanent landing, and establish a detachment of workmen on the Rock, on 21st March last. From that time to the present steady progress has been made. Two derricks were fixed—one on the eastern and another on the western side of the rock, which have greatly facilitated operations, and allow landing to be effected when otherwise it would be altogether impracticable. The first operations undertaken were to form convenient approaches from the landing places to the summit of the rock, and to provide suitable quarters for the workmen employed. Substantial brick vaults quarters have been erected capable of lodging 100 men, while on the upper floors there is a suitable apartment

for one European foreman. A brick water tank capable of containing 5,600 gallons has been constructed closely adjoining the coolie quarters.

The preparation of the site for the lighthouse was then proceeded with, in which operation it was found necessary to remove by blasting about 1,000 tons of hard metamorphic rock. The foundation stone of the Tower was laid by the Office Administering the Government on 1st September last, and the erection of the Tower and Light-keepers' quarters has since progressed steadily. The basement floor which contains a permanent water tank to hold 12,000 gallons has been completed, and on 31st December the masonry had reached the level of 4 feet above the Tower platform. The number of workmen employed on the rock has varied from 50 to 95. Now the leading the heat and glare from the bare surface of the rock, the health of all employed has been exceptionally good, which may be in part attributed to the care taken to provide proper lodging, and to maintain them in good sanitary condition, as also to ensure a regular supply of food and fresh water. No serious interruption has occurred during the progress of the work except during the gale of 16th October last, when an exceptionally heavy sea struck the rock and receded on the water tank situated 68 feet above sea-level. The weight of the wave broke the cover of the tank, and admitted a certain quantity of salt water. On this news reaching me, immediate steps were taken to send down a supply of fresh water. During the same gale a considerable quantity of dressed granite, bricks, and sand was washed off the rock, and the derrick on its eastern face was carried away. With this exception the work has proceeded regularly, and without accident, or other unusual incident. The progress merits much credit on Mr. J. R. Mudie, the Executive Engineer in charge, and Mr. Donald Fraser, Foreman, who has worked continuously on the rock since April last.

TRAINING ALBANY NULAH AND BRANCHES AND PREPARATION OF KENNEDY ROAD SITES.

10. A contract for this work was entered into on 4th October last, and the work has since been pushed rapidly forward. The masonry of the Channel for the Albany Nulah is nearly completed as far as the Tramway Station, the bridge on the Kennedy Road is in progress, and the small storm channel west of the Tramway is well advanced. I am urging the Contractor to push on with this important work, with a view to its completion if possible before the rainy season begins.

IMPROVEMENTS—RECREATION GROUND—HAPPY VALLEY.

11. A contract for filling in the round pond or lake was entered into on 11th July last, and although considerable difficulties have been experienced in obtaining the large quantity (64,000 cubic yards) of material required to fill in this pond, without interfering unduly with the old Chinese cemetery, and private property, rapid progress has been made and the work is approaching completion. About 15,300 square yards of the area within the Race Course have been returned, but it need hardly be said that the unusually protracted drought has severely tried both the old and new turf. It is proposed to push on as rapidly as possible with the diversion of the canal, and other work remaining to complete these improvements, which when carried out will very nearly double the area available for purposes of recreation.

CATTLE, SHEEP AND PIG DEPOTS AND SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

12. The are a required for the extension of the Cattle Sheds is nearly prepared, but the work has been greatly delayed owing to the refractory nature of the trap rock which it has been necessary to blast.

13. A contract for the preparation of the site of the Slaughter-houses and Sheep and Pig Depots, including extensive excavations and retaining walls, was entered into on 4th October last and the work is being pushed forward. Plans will be prepared for so that the work may be put in hand as soon as the preparation of the site is sufficiently advanced.

14. Plans have also been prepared of a small Slaughter-house for the Kowloon Peninsula, and a site has been selected in Hung Hom Bay, east of the Ridge Range. It is proposed to commence the work forthwith, immediately a contract has been entered into.

PUBLIC LAUNDRIES.

15. On the recommendation of a Committee of the Sanitary Board a site for the first experimental block of public laundries has been approved rear the junction of the Kennedy and Wanchai Gap Roads. The working drawings have been prepared, and the buildings will be commenced as soon as the site is cleared.

PUBLIC LATRINES.

16. Two public latrines are in course of erection in Victoria, two have been fixed at Yaumati and two are now being erected at Hung Hom.

CIVIL HOSPITAL STAFF QUARTERS.

17. A contract for this extensive block of buildings was entered into on 11th November, 1890, and the masonry is now approaching completion. The progress made has not been altogether satisfactory, some delay having arisen in obtaining the fine dressed granite ashlar facings. I have not failed to urge the Contractor to complete these buildings as early as possible.

CIVIL HOSPITAL—COOKE QUARTERS.

18. The house for the accommodation of the numerous Chinese servants attached to the Hospital was contracted for in January, 1890. This building is well advanced and should be completed early in the spring.

LUNATIC ASYLUM FOR CHINESE.

19. A contract was made for these buildings on 29th April last. Good progress has been made, they are now roofed in and they should be completed ready for occupation early in the summer.

POLICE STATION—ABERDEEN.

20. A contract was entered into and these buildings were commenced on 26th October last. Fair progress has since been made.

POLICE STATION—QUARRY BAY.

21. A site having been selected in consultation with the Captain Superintendent of Police on the rising ground forming the western boundary of Quarry Bay, the working drawings were prepared, the contract let and the work was commenced on 19th November last.

DISTRICT SHOOL—SAVINGUPUN.

22. A convenient site for this school house which is to serve for the western district of Victoria, having been selected by the Inspector of Schools, a contract was entered into and the work was commenced on 17th September last. The foundations have been completed and the walling is progressing satisfactorily.

NEW WING TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

23. The new wing, which includes a ball room 60 feet by 40 feet, supper, card and billiard rooms and other accessories, is situated at the western side of the rock, which have greatly facilitated operations, and allow landing to be effected when otherwise it would be altogether impracticable. The first operations undertaken were to form convenient approaches from the landing places to the summit of the rock, and to provide suitable quarters for the workmen employed.

24. Working drawings have been prepared and tenders obtained, and it is proposed to continue to assist in the work of the Surveyor-General's Office until the arrival of Mr. H. P. Tocker, Executive Engineer, in April last. Mr.

for one European foreman. A brick water tank capable of containing 5,600 gallons has been constructed closely adjoining the coolie quarters.

25. During the early part of the year the old pier was removed and a new and improved pier of hardwood was constructed to take its place.

NEW PIER FOR POWDER MAGAZINE—STONE CUTTERS' ISLAND.

26. The old pier which was in the last stage of decay has been removed and the construction of a new timber pier of hardwood 175 feet long and 1,000 tons of hard metamorphic rock. The foundation stone of the Tower was laid by the Office Administering the Government on 1st September last, and the erection of the Tower and Light-keepers' quarters has since progressed steadily. The basement floor which contains a permanent water tank to hold 12,000 gallons has been completed, and on 31st December the masonry had reached the level of 4 feet above the Tower platform. The number of workmen employed on the rock has varied from 50 to 95. Now the leading the heat and glare from the bare surface of the rock, the health of all employed has been exceptionally good, which may be in part attributed to the care taken to provide proper lodging, and to maintain them in good sanitary condition, as also to ensure a regular supply of food and fresh water.

27. The repairs to damage done by the storm were finally completed in August last at a cost of \$16,893; my estimate sent in shortly after the storm occurred having amounted to \$12,783.

III.—PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT.

REPAIRS TO GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

28. Beside the ordinary repairs to the Government buildings generally, Government House has been thoroughly overhauled and repainted externally. The Government Offices, the Supreme Court, the Central Police Station, and the Civil Hospital have also been painted externally. As the flat roof of the great hall of the Victoria College leaked badly, it was found necessary to remove the lead covering and replace it. This has been done with satisfactory results. The Light-houses have been thoroughly repaired and the landings and approaches at Green Island and Cape D'Aguilar have been greatly improved.

REPAIRS TO ROADS.

29. The roads within the City have been maintained in good condition except in places where the extensive operations of the Water and Drainage Department have rendered it necessary to break up the surface. Almost every street in the City will in the immediate future have to be opened up twice, once for water, and once for drains, it is evident that for some time to come the maintenance of a fairly good surface must prove a work of no small difficulty.

30. Of the district roads outside the City, the carriage road from West Point to Aberdeen has been metalled throughout. All the roads on Hongkong Island have been maintained in good condition with the exception of the bridge road from Aberdeen via Stanley to Shaukiwan, and the small storm channel west of the Tramway is well advanced. I am urging the Contractor to push on with this important work, with a view to its completion if possible before the rainy season begins.

31. The roads and streets in the Kowloon Peninsula have been greatly improved and are now in good repair throughout. A new road called Chater Road is being formed by heavy cutting at the back of the Tsimshatsui Police Station. The road from Yaumati and Tsimshatsui to Hung Hom which was previously only a track across the sands, almost impracticable after heavy rain, has been formed along the shore of Hung Hom Bay for a distance of about a mile—thus bringing the thriving industrial village of Hung Hom into direct communication with the western part of the Peninsula and the Kowloon Ferry. No sooner was the new road sufficiently advanced for the purpose than the public jinrikishas, which had hitherto not existed in Kowloon, were introduced, and are now plying regularly for hire.

IV.—LAND SURVEY BRANCH.

32. Mr. Malach having returned from leave on 14th December, 1890, was placed in charge of this branch of the Department with Mr. Prouser as Assistant Land Surveyor.

33. There has been very little demand for land during the year owing to difficulties in the reaction from the over-speculation of 1888-89.

34. During the year lease plans have been prepared for one Marine Lot and 22 Inland Lots Victoria, 4 Rural Building Lots, 32 Inland Lots Kowloon, 1 Marine and 2 Inland Lots Quarry Bay, 3 Inland Lots Aberdeen, making a total of 64 lease plans prepared. Besides this special surveys have been made of the village of Wong-nieng-chong for the purposes of the Land Commission and much has been done to fill in the blanks on the map of Victoria by a survey of the lots above the Robinson and Bonham Road levels.

35. The want of a complete survey of the Colony is one of our greatest needs, and it is greatly to be desired that the new survey which has been sanctioned by Government may be commenced forthwith and pushed on as rapidly as practicable.

V.—SQUATTERS.

36. The issue of squatters' licences devolves on the Surveyor-General. During the year 2,666 licences have been issued on which amount to \$9,801. We have on various occasions called attention to the unsatisfactory state of the so-called "Squatters" question and a "Squatters Commission" has been appointed to investigate titles to land and grant leases where a good claim can be established.

The term "Squatter" is somewhat loosely applied and is frequently used as including all the Chinese inhabitants of the villages who do not hold land under Crown lease. Now a considerable proportion of the inhabitants in the older villages are entered on the "Rent Roll" thus showing that the holdings of which they are in possession were held by them or their predecessors at the time of the British occupation. These people cannot therefore be called "Squatters" in any true sense of the word.

After those entered on the Rent Roll come persons holding land under squatters' licences. The squatters' licence is nothing more or less than an annual tenancy with power of removal on a month's notice. It is in my opinion desirable that an inquiry should be made as to what extent it is desirable to continue the system of squatters' licences and whether in certain cases a more certain tenure with security for improvement might not be granted with advantage.

VI.—INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS.

37. The following is a list of the number of buildings for which plans have been deposited and which have been completed during the year 1890:

Plots Buildings deposited, completed
European Houses..... 34 32
Chinese Houses..... 188 204
Factories, G-downs, and Miscellaneous Structures..... 47 29

Total:..... 269 275

During the year, 1,165 notices and permits have been issued through the Inspector of Buildings.

V

the delimitation of the British and Italian spheres of influence from the Blue Nile to the Red Sea.

LONDON, April 16th.

An incident occurred in the House of Commons last night during the discussion on the Irish Sunday Closing Bill. Mr. Parnell, who opposed the Bill on the ground that it was contrary to the wishes of the people of Ireland, was interrupted by Mr. Maurice Healy, who declared that Mr. Parnell in nowise represented the electors of Cork, and challenged him to keep his promise of resigning the seat.

The death is announced of Mr. Edward Greene, Conservative member for Stowmarket, in the county of Suffolk, who at his election, recently, was elected by 3,906 votes.

SIMLA, April 16th.

In a *Gazette Extraordinary* of the Government of India, which was issued to-day, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council says that he has received with the deepest regret, leaving no room for doubt, confirmation of the news of the cruel and treacherous murder at Manpur on the night of the 24th March last, of Mr. Quinton and the following officers who accompanied him under a flag of truce from the British Residency to the Palace of the Regent, namely:—Colonel Skene and Messrs. Grimwood, Simpson and Cossins. It is besides reported that Messrs. Melville and O'Brien were murdered by Manpur rebels at Maynangkong, on the road between Manpur and Kohima. His Excellency the Governor-General then goes on to say that in Mr. Quinton the State has lost a servant of long service and varied experience, who filled with distinction many important posts to the complete satisfaction of the Government of India. Colonel Skene was an officer of long and highly distinguished service, who passed the greater portion of his career on the Assam Frontier. Mr. Grimwood was attached to the Assam Commission in 1878 and was appointed Political Agent at Manpur in April 1889.

The following is the result of the race for the Craven Stakes for 3-yr. olds, distance 1 m. 18 yds., run at Newmarket to-day.

Lord Zetland's Friar Lubin..... 1

Mr. Low's Goli Coon..... 2

Mr. Blundell Maple's Grand Master. 3

LONDON, April 17th.

In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Conibear moved an adjournment of the House for the purpose of protesting against the treatment Abdool Rassoul had received. Sir J. Gorst replying said that the necessary information was wanting to enable the Government to judge whether the Government of India had acted wisely in arresting Abdool Rassoul. He then narrated the circumstances of Abdool Rassoul's coming to London, and said Lord Cross had refused to grant compensation to Abdool Rassoul owing to the absence of any proof that his arrest was unjust. The motion was negatived without a division.

CALCUTTA, April 17th.

A serious riot has taken place in Benares city. The Hindoos, fearing the demolition of the Ramoji Temple by the Municipality, dug up the Water Works pipes connecting the Temple to the distributing station, and destroyed a small pumping engine; they attacked the houses of the Raja Siva Pershad and Baboo Sitaram, also the City Telegraph Office, cutting the wires and plundering the cash chest at Rajghat station of three thousand rupees, and wrecking the places. A strong force of the East Lancashire and 12th Native Infantry were brought out, and eventually restored order. Detachments of troops were sent to guard the Dufferin Bridge, the Bank of Bengal and the Post Office. Volunteers also turned out, 120 of the rioters have been arrested; more arrests are being made.

HOW to gain Flesh and Strength.—Take after each meal about a tablespoonful of Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites. It is almost as palatable as milk and easily digested. The rapidity with which delicate children and sickly people suffering from weakness and wasting disease improve and thrive upon this diet is truly marvellous. As a remedy for Consumption and Throat Affections and Bronchitis is unequalled by any other preparation in the world. Any Chemist can supply it. A. S. Watson & Co. (Ltd.), agents in Hongkong and China. [Advt.]

To-day's Advertisements.

DOUGLAS STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHOW: THE Company's Steamship.

"NAMOA."

Captain Goddard, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 3rd May, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, and May, 1891. 1660

DOUGLAS STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW.

THE Company's Steamship.

"FOKIEN."

Captain Davis, will be despatched for the above Port on MONDAY, the 4th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, and May, 1891. 1661

DOUGLAS STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUL.

THE Company's Steamship.

"HAILOONG."

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 5th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, and May, 1891. 1662

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA, VIA INLAND SEA.

THE Steamship.

"TARTAR."

Captain Bailey, will be despatched as above on or about the 10th inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, and May, 1891. 1667

FOR SALE.

A NEW HALF-DECKED

"CUTTER,"

16 feet long, by 5 feet 9 inches beam and 3 feet draft. New Sails and Rigging, etc.

Apply to W. P.,

c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office,

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1891. 1668

To-day's Advertisements.

STAMPS.

USED POSTAGE and CONSULAR STAMPS from China, Japan, Hongkong, Macao, the Philippines, Siam, &c., &c., bought at high rates. State values and quantities when sending.

A. TERRAZ,
Haliphong.
Hongkong, 2nd May, 1891. 1664

TO LET.

TOGETHER or subdivided from 1st June to next, HOUSE No. 5, Chancery Lane with 10 Rooms and Bath Rooms. Two separate entrances.

Apply to

J. M. V. DE FIGUEIREDO,
No. 5, Caine Road.
Hongkong, 2nd May, 1891. 1665

NOTICE.

THE GOVERNOR and Lady DES VOEUX will be glad to receive at Government House on WEDNESDAY next, the 6th May, between the hours of 4 to 6 p.m., all those who wish to bid them farewell.

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1891. 1666

NOTICE.

THE GOVERNOR and Lady DES VOEUX will be glad to receive at Government House on WEDNESDAY next, the 6th May, between the hours of 4 to 6 p.m., all those who wish to bid them farewell.

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1891. 1665

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, MALTA, GIBRALTAR, MARSEILLES, BRINDISI, TRIESTE, VENICE, PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON;

ALSO, BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND AUSTRALIA.

N.B.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF PORTS, MARSEILLES, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

SPECIE ONLY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY's Steamship "BOKHARA," Captain H. J. Weight, with Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for LONDON, VIA BOMBAY and SUEZ CANAL on THURSDAY, the 14th May, at Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M., parcels and Specie (Gold) at the Office until 4 P.M., on the day before sailing.

SILK and Valuables for Europe will be transhipped at Colombo; General Cargo for London will be conveyed via Bombay without transhipment, arriving one week later than by the ordinary direct route via Colombo.

Tea will be sent either via Bombay or Colombo, according to arrangement.

For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply to the PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hong Kong.

The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.

This Steamer takes Cargo and Passengers for Marseilles.

E. L. WOODIN,
Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,
Hongkong, and May, 1891.

1667

Intimations.

TREASURY NOTICE.

THE RATING ORDINANCE, 1888.

THE VALUATION LIST for VICTORIA for 1891-92 is open to inspection at the Treasury for Twenty-one Days, commencing from MONDAY, the 4th May. Extracts may be taken.

This Valuation will be in force from July 1st, 1892, to June 30th, 1892.

The last day for appeal to the Supreme Court will be May 23rd. Besides lodging a Formal Appeal in the Court, stating the grounds of such Appeal a copy of such notice must also be sent to the Assessor on or before that date.

The Valuation Lists for the Hill District, Kowloon, and the Villages will be open to inspection later on, of which due notice will be given.

Where the Valuation of any Tenement has been altered from that now in force, the Assessor has sent notice of such change to the Owner, if his address is known, or if not, to the Occupier, with a request that he will hand the same to the Owner. The omission to serve such notice does not invalidate the Rate, or form any excuse for not appealing against any Assessment within the prescribed time, viz. May 4th to May 23rd, 1892. All Owners or Occupiers interested in rateable property should therefore inspect the Rate Book within this period.

ARTHUR CHAPMAN,
Assessor.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1891. 1671

NOTICE.

A SPECIAL Session of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace will be held in the Justices' Room, at the Magistracy, at ELEVEN O'CLOCK in the Forenoon of TUESDAY, the 11th Day of May, A.D. 1891, for the purpose of considering an application from one ROBERT ISHWOOD, for a licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors in a certain building at Victoria Gap, to be named THE MOUNT AUSTIN HOTEL.

ALFRED G. WISE,
Police Magistrate.

Magistracy,
Hongkong, 23rd April, 1891. 1672

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

HONGKONG DERBY, 1892.

THE WEIGHTS for the above RACE will be weight for fathoms, not for rods, as heretofore.

E. H. GORE-BOOTH,
Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1891. 1673

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A INTERIM BONUS of Eighteen per cent upon Contributions for the year 1890 has been declared. WARRANTS may be had on application at the Office of the Society, on and after the 6th May.

By the Order of the Board.

1674

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By the Order of the Board.

1675

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By the Order of the Board.

1676

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By the Order of the Board.

1677

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By the Order of the Board.

1678

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By the Order of the Board.

1679

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By the Order of the Board.

1680

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By the Order of the Board.

1681

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1891.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE PUNJOM AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

ISSUE OF 60,000 PREFERENCE SHARES OF \$1 EACH FULLY PAID.

APPLICATIONS will be received at the Company's Office, No. 9, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, for 60,000 \$1 Shares bearing a right to a cumulative Preference Dividend of 12 per cent.

In the event of Company being wound up the Holders of the said Preference Shares shall be entitled to have the surplus assets of the Company applied in the first place to repaying to them of the amount paid up on such Preference Shares, the residue of such surplus assets shall belong to and be divided among the Ordinary Shareholders of the Company.

Application forms are to be obtained from and to be sent in to the Company's Bankers, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Hongkong on or before TUESDAY, the 5th May 1891, accompanied by payment of \$1 per share for each share applied for.

By Order of the Board.

A. O'D. GOURDIN,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1891. (524)

W. S. MARTEL,
ARTISTIC DECORATOR,
2, DUDDELL STREET,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1891. (52)

NOTICE.

JEYE'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS COMPANY, LIMITED.

JEYE'S WOOD PRESERVER OR ANTISEPTIC PAINT.

THE Undersigned have this day been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and are prepared to supply quantities to suit purchasers at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special terms for Shipping and large Orders.

St. ROBERT RAWLINSON, C.B., C.E., Chief Sanitary Engineer, Local Government Board, London, says:

"It is the best Disinfectant in use."

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 20th June, 1891. (52)

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned undertakes to produce First Class Photographs. Gentlemen wishing to patronize may have PROOFS OR PHOTOS sent to them for approval, and if not satisfied, no charge will be made.

Cabinets (enamelled).....\$5 a dozen.

Cards de Visite do.....2

PUN WOO, PHOTOGRAPHER,
84, Queen's Road Central,

(Top Floor of Tees Sing, Bookbinders),

Hongkong, 17th February, 1891. (528)

Dr. KNORR'S

ANTIPIRINE.

(Dose for Adults 15 to 85 grains troy.)

IS the most approved and most efficacious remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, TYPHEUS, ERYSPELAS, HOOPING-COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recommended by the medical Faculty. To be had from every reputed Chemist and Druggist. Ask for Dr. KNORR'S ANTIPIRINE! Each Tin bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR" in red letters.

Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents for China. Beware of spurious imitations!

Hongkong, 20th May, 1891. (526)

HONGKONG TIMBER YARD, WANCHAII.

REGON PINE STARS and LUMBER Always on Hand.

L. MALLORY,

Hongkong, 24th June, 1891. (525)

Hotels.

STAG HOTEL,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

THIS HOTEL, situated in the most Central part of Hongkong, has recently been refitted, and has excellent accommodation for visitors.

The Table is supplied with every delicacy of the Season.

WINES, LIQUORS, &c. of the very best quality only.

Charges Moderate.

HING LEE & Co.,

Proprietors.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891. (528)

THE SHAMKEEN HOTEL

BRITISH CONCESSION, CANTON.

THIS FIRST CLASS HOTEL, admirably situated within a few minutes walk of the River Steamer Wharves, is now open to receive visitors.

The Bed-rooms are cool, airy and comfortably furnished, and the spacious Dining Room, Sitting Room, and accommodation generally will be found equal to the best Hotels in the Far East.

The Table D'Hôte is supplied with every luxury in season, and the cuisine is in excellent hands.

Wines, Spirits, Malt Liquors, &c. of the best quality only.

A. F. DO ROZARIO,

Manager.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1890. (1047)

THE BOA VISTA.

BISHOP'S BAY, MACAO.

THIS House, situated on the sea shore in one of the best and healthiest parts of Macao, and commanding an admirable view facing the South, was OPENED as a HOTEL on the 1st July.

Every comfort will be provided for visitors, with excellent cuisine and choice Wines.

Hot, Cold, Showers, and Sea Water Baths. Large and well Ventilated Dining, Bedding, and Reading Rooms, and well supplied Bar.

A small dairy is attached to the premises.

Mrs. MARIA R. DO ROZARIO,

Proprietress.

Hongkong, 24th April, 1891. (524)

Commercial.

THE WEEK'S SHARE BUSINESS.

Hongkong, May 2nd, Share business during the week has been of the most insignificant character, and up to date there are no indications of any improvement. Bank shares continue weak at annexed rates, sellers ruling the market.

Docks are the firmest stock in the entire list; a few shares have changed hands for cash at 100 per cent. premium, but the supply proved unequal to the demand and offers to buy at that price are not responded to. Steamboats are unsteady, with sellers at 33, the determined opposition now on the Canton river having entirely taken the backbone out of this once popular stock, and it is greatly to be feared that very much worse times are yet in store for confiding shareholders.

The Indo-China Co.'s steamers are reported to have been doing remunerative business lately, but in spite of this the shares continue to be freely offered at 30 per cent. discount. Popular rumour, which sometimes lies but very often is not far from the truth, is to the effect that the major portion of the Indo-China Co.'s profits is "chow-chowed" by running expenses, very considerable items being commissions, etc., charged by the influential General Managers. Doubtless there are other concerns in the colony of which the same tale could be truly told, but as this is a company in which so many people are interested both here and at home, a careful and impartial investigation of the published reports and accounts would doubtless be read with interest. We shall tackle the job one of these days, *pro bono publico*.

Douglas Steamers are rather out of favor at 47, but whether this is owing to the new Chinese opposition, to slackness of the Coast carrying trade, or to the dormant condition of the Share Market, we are unable to say. Both China Sugars and Luzons are weak at their respective

quotations, although inquiries have been frequent during the week. A. S. Watson & Co.'s scrip remains steady at 21 to 23, but of late very few transfers have been reported. Hongkong Ropes are strong at 124, and there are offers to buy Punjoms at 23. There are more unlikely things than this latter stock attracting a good deal of public attention before long, and even another sensational "boom" is well within the bounds of possibility. For the first time within the Company's history the Directors appear to have secured the services of a thoroughly reliable and practical mining expert as manager, a man who knows his business and is not an animated gas-bag, so that if the Punjom concession is really worth working, the shareholders will very soon know it.

Since Mr. Becher's deposition from the supreme control, prospects are stated to have improved wonderfully, and not merely on paper. Raubs are still wanted at 80 cents, but few if any shares are available. The other day ten thousand Raubs were advertised to be auctioned at Singapore, but as they were withdrawn on the day of sale it is quite likely it was only a "bear" dodge to depreciate the stock. Fenwick & Co.'s shares are quoted at \$15, at which rate they are a gift to anybody who has money to invest; the Company has been fully employed for some time past on remunerative work and prospects are in every way satisfactory. In Borneo Planting scrips nothing has been done, and other quotations are mostly of a purely nominal character.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, ex New Issue, 104 per cent. premium, sellers.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cum New Issue, 225 per cent. premium, sellers.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, New Issue, 310 per cent. premium, sellers.

Unic Insurance Society of Canton—\$95 per share, buyers.

China Traders' Insurance Company—\$63 per share, buyers.

North China Insurance—Tls. 275 per share, buyers.

Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$115 per share, sellers.

Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 70 per share, nominal.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$315 per share, sellers.

China Fire Insurance Company—\$285 per share, sellers.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—4100 per cent. premium, buyers.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$15 per share, sellers.

China and Manila Steam Ship Company—120 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Gas Company—\$131 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Hotel Company—\$120 per share, buyers.

Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures—\$101.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—30 per cent. discount, sellers.

Douglas Steamship Company—\$17 per share, sellers.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$198 per share, sellers.

Lemco Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$92 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Ice Company—\$60 per share, buyers.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$75 per share.

Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$7 per share, sellers.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$21 per share, buyers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—\$1 per cent. premium, sellers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—14 per cent. premium.

Hongkong Ropes Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$124 per share, buyers.

The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Limited—\$35 per share, nominal.

Punjom and Sungkie Dua Samantan Mining Co.—\$5 per share, sellers.

The Raub Gold Mining Co., Limited—50 cents per share, buyers.

Imulus Mining Co., Limited—\$12 per share, buyers.

The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$7 per share, sellers.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godiva Company—\$75 per share, buyers.

Tonquin Coal Mining Co.—\$430 per share, buyers.

The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—\$65 per share, buyers.

The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$10 per share, sellers.

H. G. Brown & Co., Limited—\$48 per share, ex div. buyers.

The Songel Kohay Planting Co., Limited—\$13 per share, buyers.

Cruickshank & Co., Limited—\$35 per share, nominal.

The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.

The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Company, Limited—\$13 per share, sellers.

The China-Borneo Co., Limited—\$16 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Limited—\$12 per share, sellers.

The Green Island Cement Co.—\$17 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited—\$85 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Limited—\$6 per share, buyers.

Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—\$15 per share, sellers.

The West Point Buildings Co., Limited—\$30 per share, sellers.

The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Limited—\$8 per share, sellers.

The Labuk Planting Co., Limited—\$25 per share, sellers.

The Lamak Planting Co., Limited—\$7 per share, buyers.

The Jelebu Mining and Trading Co., Limited—\$2 per share, buyers.

The Selama Tin Mining Co., Limited—\$1 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Marina, Limited—nominal.

London and Pacific Petroleum Co., Limited—\$16, sellers.

The National Bank of China, Ltd.—274 per cent. shares.

The National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders' shares—\$400 per share, sellers.

THE BANK OF CHINA & JAPAN & THE STRAITS LTD.—\$18 per share, sellers.

The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ltd.—\$18 per share, sellers.

THE HONGKONG & SHAWAN BANK LTD.—\$18 per share, sellers.

THE HONGKONG & SHAWAN BANK LTD.—\$18 per share, sellers.

THE HONGKONG & SHAWAN BANK LTD.—\$18 per share, sellers.

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